



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF PREVENTION, PESTICIDES  
AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES

September 20, 2007

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Effects Determinations for Simazine Relative to the Barton Springs Salamander

FROM: Anita Pease, Senior Biologist /original signed by A. Pease, 9/20/07/  
ERB IV  
Environmental Fate and Effects Division

TO: Arthur-Jean B. Williams, Acting Division Director  
Environmental Fate and Effects Division

Attached is the assessment of potential direct and indirect effects to the Barton Springs salamander from uses of the herbicide simazine. While the Endangered Species Act requires we assess uses of pesticides relative to any potentially affected listed species, this assessment focuses only on the Barton Springs salamander, addressing provisions of a settlement agreement entered into by the federal government to resolve claims made by plaintiffs against EPA in a court case (CBD v. EPA<sup>1</sup>).

The attached assessment was conducted consistent with the Agency's Overview Document<sup>2</sup> and results in a determination that simazine has "no effect", either directly or indirectly, on the Barton Springs salamander. As required by the Alternative Consultation Agreement EPA entered into with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service (Services), I have been trained by the Services to make such determinations. Additionally, this assessment was subjected to internal Agency peer review throughout its development. The review panel included one other scientist who has been trained by the Services to make such determinations (Dr. Melissa Panger).

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this assessment and effects determination for simazine relative to the Barton Springs salamander.

cc: Steven Bradbury  
Debbie Edwards

Attachments

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<sup>1</sup> Settlement agreement of August 22, 2005: Center for Biological Diversity v. Stephen L. Johnson, et al. No: 1:04-cv-00126-CKK.

<sup>2</sup> Overview of the Ecological Risk Assessment: Process in the Office of Pesticide Programs, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Endangered and Threatened Species Effects Determinations: January 23, 2004.